



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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For Immediate Release

May 16, 2008

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Emergency & Radiological Services Division honored by NRC review team

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality’s Emergency and Radiological Services Division was awarded with the highest grade of “satisfactory” in all evaluated areas of performance, according to a recent audit conducted the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s review team.

Based on the NRC’s review process, or Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program, the review team recommended passing marks in all areas of review; including Technical Staffing and Training, Seal Source Device Evaluation, Technical Quality of Licensing and Technical Quality of Response to Incidents and Allegations. Licensing conditions were found to be stated clearly, while licensing actions were found to be complete and addressed on a timely basis. In addition, radiological instrumentation was found to be properly calibrated and functional, while the frequency and timeliness of instrument inspections met the NRC’s standards and regulations.

The review team noted that Louisiana compared favorably against many other states.

The NRC implements and enforces federal standards that regulate radiation at nuclear power plants, as well as restrictions that govern public exposure. Operating under the standards set by the NRC, the Emergency and Radiological Services Division oversees surveillance, enforcement and licensing, chemical and radiological emergency response, chemical accident prevention and emergency preparedness.

“Four and a half years ago, we were given the opportunity to maintain our high standards within the Emergency and Radiological Services Division. We rose to the challenge and achieved success while working through a 33 percent turnover in personnel,” said Jeffrey Meyers, Administrator of the Emergency and Radiological Services Division. “Through teamwork and attention to detail, the division got the job done by stepping up to task and training new personnel in order to reach the level of commitment that we continue to strive for today.”

After receiving the review team’s report outlining their recommendations, DEQ has 30 days in which to comment. Once DEQ’s comments are submitted, the NRC management review board will issue a final determination after a 74-day review period.